

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04805 181315Z
ACTION INR-10

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R 181242Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9303
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4805

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR TPHY LE
SUBJ: MAPS OF SOUTH LEBANON AND BEIRUT

1. RECENTLY THE TELEGRAPHIC TRAFFIC BETWEEN TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM, BEIRUT, AND THE DEPARTMENT HAS INDICATED THAT SOME OF THE MAPS WE ARE USING ARE OBSOLETE. IN THE CASE OF SOUTH LEBANON, THE BASIC USG REFERENCE MAP WE HAVE BEEN USING HERE IS THE 1 TO 150,000 SCALE ENTITLED "SOUTH LEBANON AND VICINITY". THIS DOES NOT SHOW THE NETWORK OF 12 OR 16 HARD-SURFACED ROADS THE ISRAELIS HAVE CONSTRUCTED IN THE ENCLAVES SINCE MARCH 15. WE RECOMMEND THAT A NEW EDITION OF THIS MAP, PREFERABLY ON A LARGER SCALE, BE PRODUCED BY THE USG MAP COMMUNITY, AS HIGH PRIORITY ITEM.

2. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD ALSO BE WORTHWHILE TO PRODUCE A NEW MAP OF BEIRUT, ON A 1 TO 5,000 SCALE, SHOWING BY NAME NOT ONLY ALL IDENTIFIABLE STREETS, BUT ALL OF THE DISTRICTS WHICH ARE CONSTANTLY REFERRED TO IN THE REPORTING BUT WHICH IN MANY CASES ARE KNOWN ONLY TO VETERANS OF BEIRUT. WE MENTIONED THIS TO DATT. SUCH A MAP WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ALL CONCERNED AS THE VARIOUS PARTIES HERE CONTINUE TO WRANGLE ENDLESSLY OVER
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INDIVIDUAL STREET-CORNERS. WE WOULD BE GLAD TO CONTRIBUTE VIA NEA/ARN COPIES OF WHATEVER MAPS ARE OBTAINABLE LOCALLY HERE FOR THIS PROJECT. MOUNTED ON ONE OF THE OFFICE WALLS HERE FOR EXAMPLE IS A COMPREHENSIVE LARGE-SCALE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH OF THE CITY, WHICH IS PRESUMABLY AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON. MOST RECENT MAP WE SEEM TO HAVE IS 1 TO 12,500 PRODUCED BY US ARMY

TOPOGRAPHIC COMMAND IN 1970.

3. BEIRUT VETERANS NOW IN THE DEPARTMENT, SUCH AS
HOWELL IN NEA/ARN AND MOLINEAUX, WHO PRODUCED AT
LEAST ONE INFORMAL MAP HERE HIMSELF, COULD NO DOUBT
CONTRIBUTE EXPERTISE. WOULD APPRECIATE NEA PUSHING
THIS PROJECT.
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